

## Front Street Improvement Project May 28, 2010

With another busy week, TA Loving completed the 21<sup>st</sup> week of the project with work occurring in the 100 block and Market Street intersection. To date, the project is 80% complete and within budget. The project is anticipated to be finished ahead of the July 31 substantial completion date. Currently, TA Loving and sub-contractors are making the transition from underground work to above ground streetscaping in the 100 block. This week, the contractor and subs installed most of the granite curbing and erected the traffic signal poles at Market Street. The new signals were tested and placed into operation on Friday. The City worked closely with the businesses to provide notice of upcoming sidewalk work and the transfer of new water services.

**This week** testing and state certification of the 16-inch water main was completed, thus providing the opportunity to begin the transfer of water services onto the new main. On Monday, the signal sub-contractor began the steps to erect the new traffic and pedestrian signal poles Market Street. Installation of the poles and signal cabinet was completed on Wednesday and passed the operations test. The signals were set on red flashing mode until placed into full operation Friday morning. This week, approximately 500 feet of granite curb was installed all the way through the mid-block area and almost to Chestnut Street. The City worked closely with the surveyors and contractors to ensure proper elevations and grades. With the granite curbs installed, the contractor performed grading, compaction and stone placement for a majority of the street area. The electrical contractors continued to install the new conduits and light poles bases. On Thursday, the new concrete for the mid-block crossing was poured and the brick pavers were installed on Friday. Notifications for water and sewer work were hand delivered on Thursday to each business in anticipation of next week's work items.



**Next week** the contractor will begin sidewalk work and transfer of water services. The contractor will start sidewalk demolition on Tuesday along the west side of block with a plan to pour concrete starting on Wednesday. The first section will be from Princess Street to the mid-block area. Depending on the progress of the first sidewalk work, the contractor would like to continue with demolition and new concrete all the way to Chestnut Street. The electrical contractor will continue to install conduits, pull boxes and light pole bases up the block. If the sidewalk work encounters obstacles in the underground and progress cannot be maintained, then it is possible the contractor may switch to minor sewer work in the south side of the Chestnut Street intersection. However, the City will provide 24-hour notice prior to any work being done in Chestnut Street.



The City continues to provide project information directly to businesses and work closely with the contractor in their schedule. More information about the project can be found on the City's website at [www.wilmingtonnc.gov](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov).